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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,328	06/25/2003	Geoffrey T. Dunbar	302124.01	2867
22971	7590	08/23/2007	EXAMINER	
MICROSOFT CORPORATION ONE MICROSOFT WAY REDMOND, WA 98052-6399			BAYARD, DJENANE M	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2141				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/23/2007		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/603,328	DUNBAR ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Djenane M. Bayard	2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2007.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-13 and 28-34 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-13 and 28-34 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to amendment filed on 6/07/07 in which claims 1-13 and 28-34 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. As per claims 1, 8 and 28, Applicant argues that Richter et al fails to teach a "topology" describing a set of input multimedia stream, one or more sources for the input multimedia streams, a sequence of operations to perform on the multimedia data and a set of output multimedia streams. Furthermore, Applicant argues "the claimed topology is a description including specific elements that is passed by a loader to a media processor that implements the topology. The topology is a virtual entity that describes what the media processor implements". The Examiner agrees that Richter et al does not use the term "topology", however, there is no structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art of Richter et al. Richter et al clearly teaches wherein for each multimedia task a subset of the multimedia processing blocks required to run the task is created. Furthermore, Richter et al teaches wherein for each subset of block created, the application interface examines the input and out interfaces of the selected blocks to check whether all the exchanges relative to the task to be run are possible.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-13 and 28-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S.

Patent No. 6,725279 to Richter et al.

a. As per claims 1 and 28, Richter et al teaches a method of processing multimedia data, the method comprising: creating a topology of connections between one or more multimedia components in a topology generating element (See col. 3, lines 16-17, *for each multimedia task, application interface IA creates a subset of the multimedia processing blocks required to run said task*), the topology describing a set of input multimedia streams, one or more sources for the input multimedia streams, a sequence of operations to perform on the multimedia data, and a set of output multimedia streams (See col. 2, lines 37-49 and col. 3, lines 17-34); transmitting the topology to a media processor; and passing data according to the topology, the passing governed by the media processor (See col. 3, lines 1-3 and col. 4, lines 20-24).

b. As per claim 8, Richter et al teaches a system for processing multimedia data, the system comprising: a control layer configured to receive instructions from an application, the control layer including: a topology generating element configured to generate a topology describing a set of input multimedia streams, one or more sources for the input multimedia streams, a sequence of operations to perform on the multimedia data, and a set of output multimedia streams (See col. 2, lines 37-49 and col. 3, lines 17-34); and a media processor configured to govern the passing of

the multimedia data as described in the topology and govern the performance of the sequence of multimedia operations on the multimedia data to create the set of output multimedia streams (See col. 2, lines 22-23 and col. 3, lines 1-4).; a core layer coupled to the control layer, the core layer configured to include: the input media streams; the sources for the input multimedia streams; one or more transforms configured to operate on the multimedia data; one or more stream sinks coupled to the control layer; and one or more media sinks configured to provide the set of output multimedia streams (See col. 3, lines 16-50).

c. As per claims 2 and 29, Richter et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Richter et al teaches performing the sequence of multimedia operations on the multimedia data to create the set of output multimedia streams (See col. 2, lines 37-49 and col. 3, lines 17-34).

d. As per claims 3, 9 and 30, Richter et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Richter et al teaches wherein the multimedia components are software objects (See col. 2, lines 19-21).

e. As per claims 4, 10 and 31, Richter et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Richter et al teaches wherein the topology generating element is a topology loader (See col. 2, lines 24-28).

f. As per claims 5, 11 and 32, Richter et al teaches the claimed invention as described

above. Furthermore, Richter et al teaches wherein the topology generating element is an application program (See col. 2, lines 24-28).

g. As per claims 6, 12 and 33, Richter et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Richter et al teaches wherein the media processor exposes the multimedia data to an application.

h. As per claims 7, 13 and 34, Richter et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Richter et al teaches wherein the media processor accepts the multimedia data via being configured as a media sink.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Djenane M. Bayard whose telephone number is (571) 272-3878. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday 5:30 AM- 3:00 PM..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Djenane Bayard
Patent Examiner


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